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**DIRECTIONS FOR OPERATING
THE DURABILT F. O. MINUTE BOOK**

(FLEXIBLE POSTS) SHORT PULL ROD STYLE

PATENT 967537—1019174—1056926—1247438—1247704—1738305
ABOVE PATENT NUMBERS MUST NOT BE COVERED

TO UNLOCK the book, raise cover to be unlocked to a vertical position, and pull rod out as far as it will come.

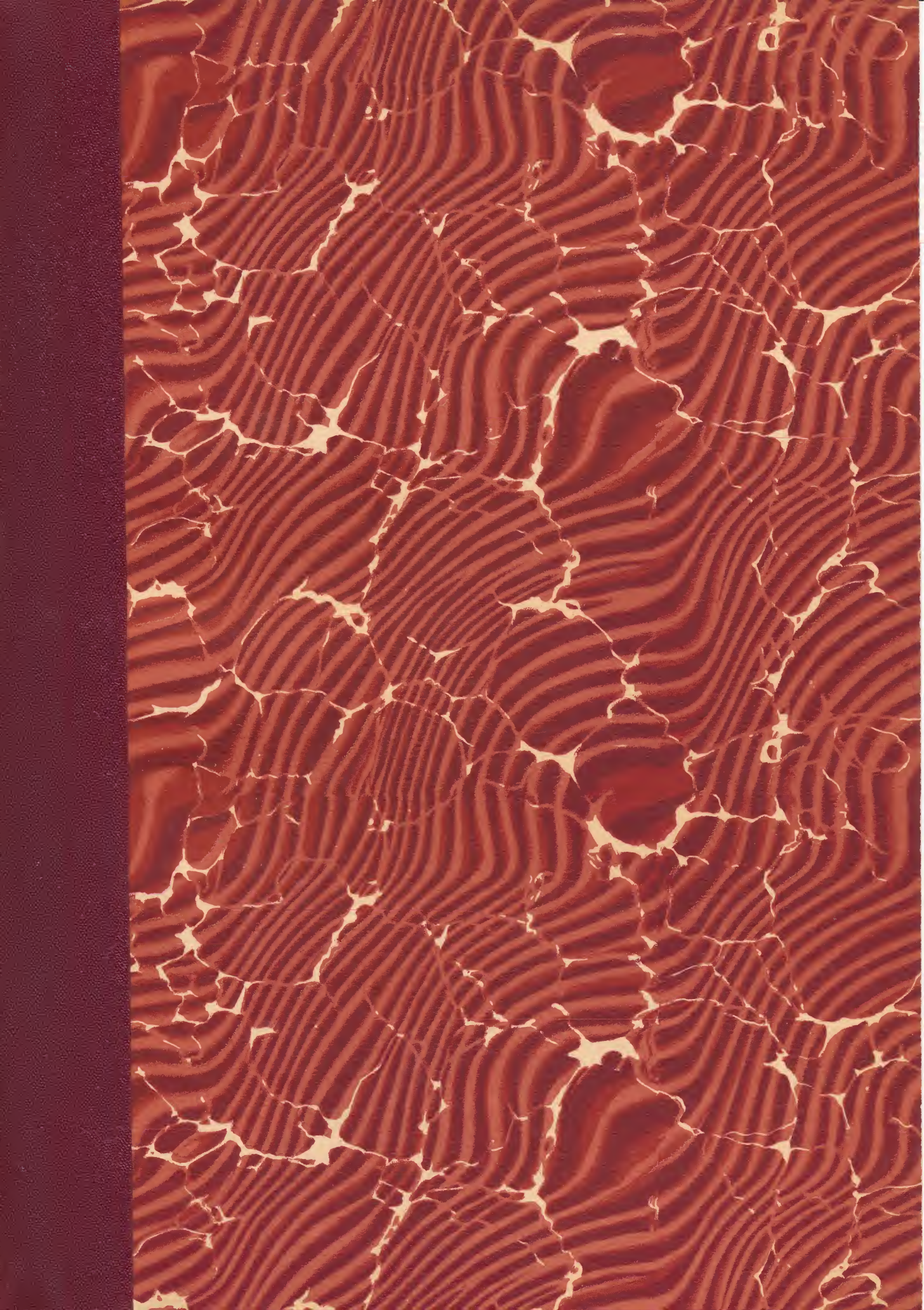
TO LOCK—Adjust the cover back into position so the notches in the cover fit over the posts, then push in rod.

Do not attempt to unlock either cover unless opposite cover is locked, as posts should always be held in one of the covers.

TO LOCK BOOK PERMANENTLY—This is only to be done when all the sheets are written up and placed in the binder, for once permanently locked, it is impossible to unlock or open it.

For this purpose two permanent locking buttons are furnished. Insert these sealing buttons into the round holes near end of locking case so that the slot in the Sealing Button runs lengthwise with the binder. Then drive in button with sufficient force to turn the ends of split button. This permanently locks and seals the book.

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J A M E S F O R D P A T T I S O N

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James Ford Pattison was born on a farm in Oshtemo township July 11, 1892, son of Ella McElroy and James F. Pattison of Scotch descent. He was reared on the farm and attended rural school No. 3, known as the Hurd school, later a training school for Western State Teachers College, which he served as director for twelve years. He was graduated from the Central high school in Kalamazoo in 1910 and later attended Michigan State College for a time and then returned to the farm.

September 19, 1917, Mr. Pattison entered military service at Camp Custer and was assigned to the 337th Field Hospital corps and later transferred to Company F, 310th Engineers in the 85th Division. He was promoted to First Class Sergeant and was overseas, serving in St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne and the Army of Occupation and was mustered out at Camp Custer July 3, 1919.

November 12, 1924, Mr. Pattison married Gertrude Buckhout, daughter of Iola Slack and Pennington Buckhout. She was born in Oshtemo

township October 2, 1903 and attended Kalamazoo high school. They are the parents of: James Ford, Jr., born May 1, 1927; Dale Phillip, born September 6, 1928; and Thomas Earl, born September 22, 1935.

For nine years Mr. Pattison was clerk of Oshtemo township and for six years he served as supervisor of that township, one year of which he was chairman of the board of supervisors. The Kalamazoo Gazette said of him:

"By election to the chairmanship of the county board in 1933, Mr. Pattison brought honor to the township of his birth. It was the first time since 1894 that Oshtemo township had held the chairmanship.

Outstanding Official

"Mr. Pattison was considered as a keystone in county government here, because of his ability and his familiarity with its various branches.

"At various times as supervisor he served on all major committees."

In May, 1934, Mr. Pattison was appointed to the office of county treasurer, to succeed George A. Squiers, who was removed from office. He was elected to the office on the Republican ticket in November, 1934, and was re-elected in 1936. As county treasurer Mr. Pattison was a member ex officio of the county plat board, the county board of election commissioners and the canvassing board and the tax allocation commission. In 1935 and 1936

he was chairman of the last named commission, declining a third term in 1937.

Mr. Pattison belonged to the Exchange club; the American Legion; the Red Arrow post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; and a Masonic order. At one time he was president of the county Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company. The family attended the First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo.

Mr. Pattison had two brothers, Ross E., who resides on the old farm, and Ward, who is deceased.

Death came to Mr. Pattison June 20, 1937. Four nights before his death he attended the graduation exercises at the Hurd school and conferred the diplomas. The funeral services were conducted by the Reverend R. J. Locke, D. D., and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.

The following tribute was paid to Mr. Pattison by the Reverend Robert J. Locke, D. D., pastor of the Congregational Church:

"We come today to honor a man, who, throughout his life has been one of us. The beautiful flowers are the gift of love. But even more and lying deeper than any external expression is the presence of those who have known him through the years of boyhood and manhood.

Ford Pattison fulfilled in himself the desire which many have and few attain to the degree which he had. He represented honor in all his dealings as a neighbor and a citizen. A man prominent in the life of our

city and state said, 'He was a prince of a man'. His death, untimely from our view of influence that should go on, causes us to make inventory of the qualities of his manhood.

Truth was his garment of daily wear. He was square and upright in his dealings with men. Patriotism with him was an ideal of quiet service to a country which he loved. He passed through the degrees of life, moving from that of a young man to that of a master workman, understanding life and giving to it the best which he possessed. Here was wisdom to interpret, strength to support and beauty to adorn. In a pre-eminent sense he was builder of integrity, a creator of friendships, an interpreter of those ideals which make the world rich and the life abundant.

'A cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead! He is just away!
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand
He has wandered into an unknown land,
And left us dreaming how very fair
It must be, since he lingers there.

And you,- O you, who the wildest yearn
For the old time step and the glad return -
Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of There, as the love of Here;
Mild and gentle as he was brave,-
When the sweetest love of life he gave

To simple things:- where the violets grew
Pure as the eyes they were likened to,
The touches of his hands have strayed
As reverently as his lips have prayed
Think of him still as the same, I say,
He is not dead, - he is just away!"

James Whitcomb Riley

The above was a part of the funeral address given by Dr. Locke.

Written in 1937

David Traverse Paulson



DAVID TRAVERSE PAULSON

1874 - 1942

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David Traverse Paulson was born in Fruitland township, Muskegon county, Michigan, May 10, 1874, son of Neils and Mary DePue Paulson, the father being of Norwegian and the mother of English and Dutch descent. David had two brothers, Andrew, who died in 1918, and John, who was deceased in 1912.

David Traverse attended the public schools of Muskegon county, after which he studied pharmacy in Kent county and about 1900 engaged in the pharmacy business in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and continued in that business until about three months before he passed away, when he retired.

December 9, 1896, he was married to Olive Hulet, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, December 9, 1877, and moved to Sparta, Michigan, while she was yet a child. She qualified as a teacher and taught school, until she was married, in Vergennes and other schools of Kent county.

While residing in Grand Rapids, they became the parents of: (1) Ethelyn, born November 26, 1897, died June 21, 1918; (2) Carroll D., born July 2, 1899,

DAVID THOMPSON

1874 - 1948

-2-

David Thompson's residence was given in Wisconsin
County, Wisconsin County, Wisconsin, May 10, 1874,
son of John and Mary Thompson, the father
being of Norwegian and the mother of English and
Irish descent. David had two brothers, Henry, who
died in 1918, and John, who was deceased in 1918.

David Thompson attended the public schools of
Wisconsin County, after which he studied pharmacy in
Kent County and spent 1900 engaged in the pharmacy
business in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and continued in
that business until about three months before he
passed away, when he retired.

December 9, 1948, he was married to Olive Hild,
who was born in Kansas County, Ohio, December 9, 1877,
and moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she was for a
child. She qualified as a teacher and taught school
until she was married, in Wisconsin and other schools
of Kent County.

While residing in Grand Rapids, Kent County, the
records of: (1) Hild, born December 25, 1877, died
June 21, 1918; (2) Carl, born July 4, 1922,

married Lillian Mooney and resides in Syracuse, New York; (3) Richard H., residing in Kalamazoo, Michigan, born September 27, 1906, married Louisa Soukup and became the father of Richard H., Jr., born June 17, 1938 and Blanche Marie, born [REDACTED]; (4) Marjorie, born September 16, 1909, married Willis C. Moffatt and resides in Boise, Idaho.

In 1921 David Traverse Paulson and family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he purchased the Raymond Van Avery Drug Store on North Burdick street, where the business was conducted until 1926, when the store was moved to Comstock. In 1928 Mr. Paulson sold the business and was employed by various drug firms in Kalamazoo.

In politics, he was independent. He enjoyed fishing and the reading of magazines, especially articles on religion and politics.

In personal appearance he was about five feet ten inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty-five pounds with coal black hair turned gray and blue eyes.

Mr. Paulson had friends all over Michigan. In Grand Rapids he knew nearly all the medical doctors. He served as pharmacist at Blodgett Hospital and was one of the earliest registered pharmacists in Michi-

married William Henry and resided in Syracuse, New York; (6) Richard E., residing in Milwaukee, married Anna Katherine E., 1904, married Anna Katherine and became the father of Richard E., Jr., born June 17, 1905 and Richard E., born December 20, 1907; (7) Joseph, born September 16, 1908, married William D. Miller and resided in Utica, Idaho.

In 1881 David Thomas Hansen and family moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and he purchased the property on First Street on First Street street, where the business was conducted until 1882, when the store was moved to Jackson. In 1883 Mr. Hansen sold the business and was replaced by Arthur John Eide in Milwaukee.

In politics, he was independent. He enjoyed fishing and the reading of magazines, especially articles on religion and politics. In personal appearance he was about five feet ten inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty-five pounds with coal black hair, brown eyes and blue eyes.

Mr. Hansen had friends all over Wisconsin. In 1882 he moved to Milwaukee and resided in the central district. He worked as a pharmacist at Stoughton Hospital and was one of the earliest registered pharmacists in Milwaukee.

gan, his certificate being dated November 6, 1896 and numbered seventy-four.

Mr. Paulson's hobby was his family. He sent all his children to college and kept them there until each one received a degree. He had a fine sense of humor and his family and friends greatly enjoyed his conversational ability.

Mr. Paulson was actively interested in religion and served as a deacon in the Fountain Street Baptist Church in Grand Rapids and as a member of the First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo.

For fifteen years before his death he had been in poor health and he passed away July 15, 1942. Funeral services were conducted with the Reverend William A. Keith officiating and burial was in Oak Hill cemetery, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The pallbearers were Morris Dunwell, Wade P. Carney, Allen B. Den Bleyker, Dr. John D. Littig, Arthur R. Stratton, and Lucien F. Sweet.

This was written in 1942.

and his certificate dated August 24, 1945.

and numbered seventy-four.

Mr. Davidson's family was the family. He was

all his children in college and kept them there

until each one received a degree. He had a fine

home at home and his family and friends greatly

enjoyed his conversational ability.

Mr. Davidson was actively interested in religious

and served as a deacon in the Presbyterian Church of

Shrewsbury in Great Britain and as a member of the First

Congregational Church in Milwaukee.

For fifteen years before his death he had been

in poor health and he passed away July 18, 1945.

Funeral services were conducted with the assistance

of William A. Nelson officiating and burial was in Oak

Hill cemetery, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The pallbearers were Mr. & Mrs. Donald, Mr. &

George, Miss E. Ann Sawyer, Mr. John D. Sawyer,

Arthur A. Sawyer, and Laura E. Sawyer.

This was written in 1945.



Joseph B. Peatling

J O S E P H B E N T L E Y P E A T L I N G

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Joseph Bentley Peatling was born in New Brighton, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1864, son of Elizabeth Calpass and Thomas Edward Peatling. He had two brothers, Thomas Edward and William C., of Abilene, Kansas; also one sister, Mrs. Anna Bare of Three Rivers, Michigan.

Joseph Peatling was educated in the schools of White Pigeon, Michigan, and Valparaiso University.

In 1898, he married Lola Howard. Three children came into the home: Ella of Detroit; John H., of Kalamazoo; and Joseph of San Antonio, Texas.

After the death of Mrs. Peatling, Mr. Peatling married Sarah F. Dickinson. One daughter was born to this union, Mrs. Frances Anderson of San Diego, California.

Mr. Peatling was fond of music and enjoyed fishing.

The following, written by Clark S. Wheeler, appears in the minutes of the Michigan Annual Conference of 1931:

"November 12, 1864 - January 13, 1931, mark the earthly boundaries of this man of God. He was born in New Brighton, Pennsylvania, and at the age of nine years came with his

parents to White Pigeon, Michigan.

"He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in early childhood.

"The hand of God was upon him for the Christian ministry, and under the guidance of his pastor, Rev. Wm. Barth, he responded to the call and united with the Michigan Annual Conference at its session in Grand Rapids in 1893.

"The following have been his fields of labor: Douglas, two years; Richland, three years; Prairieville, four years; Ganges, three years; Mendon, five years; Stockbridge Avenue, Kalamazoo, seven years; South Haven, five years; East Avenue, Kalamazoo, three years; Boyne City, three years; March 1, 1928, to January 12, 1931, superintendent of the M. J. Clark Memorial Home.

"From 1918 to 1928, inclusive, Mr. Peatling was chairman of the Conference Board of Stewards.

"He represented the Conference as a delegate to the General Conference at Kansas City, in 1928.

"A faithful, constructive, fruitful ministry of thirty-eight years!

"He had high ideals of the Christian ministry. He was a Christian gentleman. He faithfully cared for every interest of the church committed to his hands. The churches he served enjoyed a normal, healthy, spiritual life.

"The friendships formed, especially from among those whom he helped in his ministry, are as enduring as the hills.

"The crowning work of his ministry was the superintendency of the M. J. Clark Memorial Home. The details of business and administration were cared for quietly and efficiently. The affairs of the Home went on smoothly. The little difficulties incident to such an institution disappeared

upon his touch. As pastor and brother he beautifully ministered to those sitting at the western window in the sunset of life.

"The atmosphere of his home life was radiant with cheerfulness and affection.

"He died with his armor on. None but his intimate friends knew that he was suffering from high blood pressure and hardening of the arteries. His last work was attending a meeting of the Clark Home Board. He was cheerful and vivacious. His report was given. He placed in the hands of the trustees data covering the investments of the Home. He had looked after detail. On the way home from the meeting his car swung over to the curb and stopped. Joseph Peatling was not, for God had taken him.

"He walked among us in the transparency of a sincere life. He was wrought in the strength of his integrity. He was a 'good minister of Jesus Christ.'

Written in 1936



Mr. & Mrs. Perry A. Pees

P E R R Y A L F R E D P E E R

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Perry Alfred Peer was born September 23, 1848 in Ferrysburg, Quebec, the son of John and Mary Peer, whose ancestors came from England.

Mr. Peer spent his childhood on a farm with his parents and attended the rural school. At the age of eighteen he moved with his father's family to Providence, Rhode Island, where he began work as a machinist, which trade he followed for three years.

In 1869 Perry Alfred Peer came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he secured work as a clerk in the Post Office under Dr. Stone, Postmaster. In 1871 he became affiliated with the Lawrence and Chapin machine shop of Kalamazoo and in 1876 built his own foundry and machine shop at Comstock and remained with that business until his death.

Mr. Peer was a staunch Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church all his life.

On May 16, 1871 he was wed to Miss Frances Elizabeth Henshaw at the home of the bride's parents 430 West Walnut Street, Kalamazoo. To this union three children were born, Archie R., Clell H., and Mrs. Sadie C. Gleason, all of Comstock, Michigan.

In May, 1934 Mr. and Mrs. Peer celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary at a family dinner at their home.

Mr. Peer died on Sunday morning, December 8, 1935 at his home in Comstock after a short illness. Services were held at the Comstock Methodist Episcopal Church the following Wednesday morning at ten o'clock with the Reverend Richard D. Wearne officiating. Burial took place in the cemetery at Comstock.

F R A N C E S E L I Z A B E T H P E E R .

Frances Elizabeth Henshaw was born in Battle Creek, Michigan, May 16, 1850 the daughter of Edwin and Sarah Henshaw. The father, Edwin Henshaw, came from New York State with an ox team. When Frances Elizabeth was five years of age the family moved to Kalamazoo and for many years resided at 430 West Walnut Street, where she attended the public school and graduated from High School.

On May 16, 1871, her 21st birthday, Frances Elizabeth Henshaw was wed to Perry A. Peer, at the Henshaw home on West Walnut Street. To them three children were born, Archie and Clell Peer and Mrs. William Gleason, all of Comstock, Michigan.

In 1872 Perry A. Peer took his bride of a year to the home he had constructed in the village of Comstock and they settled down to live happily ever after. May 16, 1935 found them living happily in the same home and celebrating their 64th wedding anniversary with a family dinner and at the same time celebrating Mrs. Peers 85th birthday..

Mrs. Peer died at her home in Comstock, Friday morning, December 19, 1935. She had been ill since

the death of her husband on December 8, 1935. She was buried beside her husband in the Comstock cemetery. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Richard D. Wearne.



Sebastian L. Pell

S E B A S T I A N L P E L L

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Sebastian L. Pell was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 30, 1885, son of Nicholas Pell of the Netherlands. His mother was Margaret Hazenberg. He had a sister, Cora, who married E. G. Freund of Cleveland, Ohio; and four brothers, William B., Peter C., Gerald - all of Plainwell, Michigan; and Harry of Allegan, Michigan.

Sebastian L. Pell was reared in Plainwell, Michigan and attended school there and later went to a business college in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

His first business experience was in the Citizens State Savings Bank of Plainwell when he was about twenty years of age and he continued with this bank for about five years, after which he was with the Vicksburg State Bank for about three years.

He then came to Kalamazoo and was auditor of the Kalamazoo City Savings Bank for about three years. He then returned to the Vicksburg State Bank where he was cashier for a few months and then went to the People's State Bank of Redford, Michigan, where he remained for fourteen years. While with this bank he was promoted in due time from teller to

president until that bank was sold to the First National Bank of Detroit, Michigan. In 1933 he came to Kalamazoo and became an accountant for the Upjohn Company for three years.

Mr. Pell was a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo and was very active in the choir. He was a tenor soloist and belonged to choirs in the various places where he lived. He belonged to the Masonic order. He was fond of literature and "Crossing the Bar" was his favorite poem.

On September 17, 1914 Mr. Pell was married to Bethel Hambleton in Plainwell. They were the parents of two daughters: Betsy Ann, a student in Western State Teachers College; and Virginia Kathleen, also a student.

Death came to Mr. Pell March 20, 1936. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend William C. Per-dew assisted by the Reverend Thomas Laity.

Verdan Joseph Pelletier & Yvonne Gail



V E R D E N J O S E P H P E L L E T I E R

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Verden Joseph Pelletier was born in Rathwell, Manitoba, Canada, July 25, 1917, son of John Verden Pelletier, who died while engaged in secret service for the United States during World War I on April 19, 1918 and his body was buried in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri.

Verden Joseph's mother was Jennie Latour Pelletier, who was born in Chicago, Illinois, daughter of the Reverend A. J. Latour, who served in the Civil War. With the exception of one who was a cripple all male near relatives of both Mr. and Mrs. John Verden Pelletier served in the Civil War.

Mr. and Mrs. John Verden Pelletier also became the parents of three other children, one boy and two girls. The family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, when Joseph was seven years of age. He attended the Lincoln School and at an early age went to work.

September 9, 1935, the Rev. John Wirt Dunning, D. D., pronounced the words which united Verden Joseph Pelletier and Lena Wellington in marriage.

Lena Wellington was born January 8, 1917, daughter of Ernest and Lila Chandler Wellington of English, Irish and some American Indian ancestry. Lena has one sister, Geraldine, who is the wife of

Private First Class Edwin J. Franklin, and one brother, Earl, whose wife is Lucille Ranney Wellington.

Mr. and Mrs. Verden J. Pelletier became the parents of:

Verden Joseph, Jr., born August 8, 1936;
George Ernest, born October 19, 1938; and
Yvonne Gail born [REDACTED].

Mr. Pelletier found employment for a time with the Vermeulen Furniture Company and later worked for the Sutherland Paper Company.

Military Experience

He enlisted in the United States Army August 12, 1943 and was inducted at Fort Custer, Michigan. Later he was transferred to Camp Hood, Texas, where he was assigned to a Tank Division and received training. He then came home on furlough and was then sent to Camp Butner, North Carolina, point of embarkation.

Private Verden Joseph Pelletier landed in England the last of May, 1944. With Company E 137th Infantry he went into France and lost his life in action July 11, 1944, and was buried there, a victim of ruthless World War II. He was killed at St. Lo and was buried in an American Military Cemetery at La Cambe, France, Hot B, Row 8, Grave 78.

Personal Characteristics

Verden Joseph Pelletier was five feet three inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty pounds. He had dark hair and gray eyes. He enjoyed out-door sports and greatly enjoyed the beauties of nature. Hunting, fishing, baseball and other sports claimed his leisure time.

After his lovely children came his heart's interest centered in them. He was never too tired to care for them and play with them. He was delighted with his two sons but when his baby daughter was born he thought he had received from Heaven all he could ask for.

Verden was a good worker, a thoughtful provider and a loving, tender husband and father. When Kalamazoo does honor to her beloved sons the name of Verden Joseph Pelletier will shine with others who laid down their lives for this our country.

Eugene Donald Pennell



EUGENE DONALD PENNELL

1876 - 1940

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Eugene Donald Pennell was born on his grandfather's farm near Findlay, Ohio, November 15, 1876, son of John and Nancy Morehead Pennell, who were parents of two older boys, James, deceased, and Edward M., residing in 1940 at Reed City, Michigan. When Eugene was two or three years of age he went with his mother to Detroit, Michigan. Both father and mother passed away during his early childhood and his two brothers cared for him until at the age of nine he was given a home by foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Viets of Deckerville, Michigan. He attended the public school there and at the age of sixteen began to teach in a small rural school in Sanilac county.

Eugene then attended Ferris Institute at Big Rapids in 1893 where he took business courses, following which he taught at Detroit Business College. In 1902 he became head of the department of Commerce at Alma College in Alma, Michigan, a position he held for six years, during which time Dr. John W. Dunning was a student there and played on

the base ball team which Mr. Pennell coached.

Following his work in Alma College, Mr. Pennell accepted a position with Briggs and Cooper, a lumber company of Saginaw, Michigan, and made trips to Tennessee and other southern areas to buy lumber for the firm. He continued with this company until they went out of business.

He then returned to teaching business courses in the East High School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for ten years, during which time he served as secretary of the Minnesota Education Association.

December 31, 1908, he was married to Ruth Sly, daughter of Eugene R., and Emma J. Spicer Sly, also the parents of Elliott M. Sly, who resides in Belle Fourche, South Dakota; Homer Sly, of Petoskey, Michigan; and Loraine, who married Orville C. Atwood, and resides in Jacksonville, Florida.

Mrs. Pennell was born in Lexington, Illinois, attended school in Petoskey, Michigan, to which her parents had moved, then went to the Liggett School for Girls in Detroit, Michigan, and later spent some time in Olivet College. While doing some special work in the Art department at Alma College she met Mr. Pennell.

Following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Pennell

began housekeeping in Minneapolis in 1909, where they resided until 1918. They then came to Kalama-zoo where he became business secretary for Western State Teachers College and managed the buying and other business connected with the S. A. T. C. Three years later, when Arthur Loring resigned the chairmanship of the department of Commerce, Mr. Pennell accepted that position, which he retained until his death.

Mr. and Mrs. Pennell became the parents of:

Thomas Eugene, who died at the age of four in 1914;

Emma Jane, who married Stanford C. Erickson and resides in Fayetteville, Arkansas, where he is a member of the faculty in the department of psychology of the University of Arkansas, and they are the parents of Susanna, born

.

While a faculty member at Western State Teachers College, Mr. Pennell worked upon and received his degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1929. He later earned the degree of Master of Arts in commercial education from the University of Michigan, which was conferred upon him in 1935.

In 1924, Mr. and Mrs. Pennell planned and had built their beautiful home at 320 Burrows Road. He did much of the landscaping and made a hobby of his

gardening. He was prominently identified with many professional, honorary and service clubs. For many of the twenty years during which he was a member of the Kiwanis Club, he served as its local secretary. He helped to organize and was a charter member of the local chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, honorary education fraternity.

In politics, Mr. Pennell was independent, but his keen sense of justice and deep interest in the underprivileged, his ardent championship of social reform and his desire to see labor get a fair share of the profits of industry were much in accord with the objectives of the present administration.

Mr. Pennell practiced what he professed in his personal business relations and in his dealings with students. He took an active part in civic and community programs and assisted in the various campaigns and drives.

He was fond of athletics and played on a base ball team in his younger days and at one time was base ball coach, and was always greatly interested in the game. He also played tennis.

Professor Pennell was a lover of the out-of-doors. He enjoyed picnics and hikes and was very fond of northern Michigan where he and his family

spent many summers.

When Mr. and Mrs. Pennell went to Minneapolis, she united with the Westminster Presbyterian Church by letter and he joined on confession of faith. When they came to Kalamazoo their memberships were transferred to the First Presbyterian Church in this city, where he served one term as a trustee. He also served as head usher for many years and was active in the Men's Club.

Mr. Pennell was modest and retiring by nature and showed his Christian faith more in practice than in profession. He was a man of strong convictions and lived them.

For the last two and one-half years of his life Mr. Pennell had been in poor health, but had continued his work in part until the day a heart attack on June 4, 1940, suddenly brought the end.

The funeral service was held in the home by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., and burial was in the family lot at Petoskey, Michigan.

In an issue of the Western State Teachers College Herald following the death of Professor Pennell there appeared a tribute written by Dr. Ernest Burnham of which the following is an excerpt:

"Mr. Pennell was a man of quiet dignity based

upon the highest ideal in his family, professional, and general social relations. As a resident in his family for the past three years, I have witnessed a classic example of family devotion by Mr. Pennell and every member.

"In his special field, Mr. Pennell was a leader, who stood for competent scholarship and first rate service. . . He was accorded leadership recognitions in his local and state fellowship and cultural affiliations. He was a voluntarily active worker in religious and civic enterprises for the greater welfare of the city."

William Penning



W I L L I A M J U N I O R P E N N I N G

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Private William Junior Penning was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 21, 1922, son of William Penning, Sr., and Helene Ruster Penning, both of whose ancestors were natives of The Netherlands.

William Junior had a brother, Robert, who was a Private in World War II and served in France, and a sister, Muriel, who resides with her parents at 1014 North Westnedge avenue in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

William Junior attended school in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the Lincoln School in Kalamazoo, after which he was employed by the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company. He also did some painting and paper hanging.

Military Experience

He was drafted into army of the United States November 2, 1942, and was inducted November 21, 1942, and received his training at Camp White and Camp Adair, Oregon.

He was shipped overseas in April, 1944, and was wounded in action in Italy July 6, 1944, and

returned to duty July 31, 1944. He received the Purple Heart decoration.

While returning from the front for a rest, he was injured in a truck accident and died as a result of the injuries received August 18, 1944.

The body was temporarily interred in Italy but it is planned to return it to Kalamazoo, Michigan, for final burial.

A memorial service was held in the Third Christian Reformed Church, the Reverend Cornelius Oldenburg officiating.

Marriage

On July 17, 1943, William J. Penning was married to Delores Zimmerman, daughter of Harold and Betty Zimmerman.

William and Delores became interested in each other during their school days and had been engaged for about two years.

Delores was graduated from Central High School in 1940, and in September 1944 became associated with her mother, Mrs. Bert Heystek, in a photo studio at 320 North Burdick street in Kalamazoo.

Delores had a brother, Harold, fireman first class, who served during World War II with the United States Navy in the Pacific.

On Friday, March 9, 1945, Mrs. Delores Penning

was sworn into the Waves and served her country in that capacity.

Personal Characteristics

William Junior Penning was five feet ten inches tall and weighed about one hundred ninety-five pounds and had blond hair and blue eyes.

He enjoyed base ball, swimming, hunting, fishing and bowling.

In political interest he was a Democrat. He belonged to the Third Christian Reformed Church in Kalamazoo and attended its Sunday school and worship services.

He was courteous, kind, honest, industrious and devoted to his wife.

He died for others that they might live in freedom. It is for those others to see to it that freedom is maintained and extended to all men. The world cannot continue part slave and part free.

Maurice Samuel Perker



Robinson-

M A U R I C E S A M U E L P E R K E Y

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Maurice Samuel Perkey was born in Delphos, Ohio, May 5, 1921, the son of Alfred Benjamin Perkey, who was born in Ottawa, Ohio, February 15, 1901, and on September 25, 1920, was married to Orpha Keirns, who was born in Continental, Ohio, November 9, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred B. Perkey were married in Monroe, Michigan, and began housekeeping in Finley, Ohio, where they resided for two years and then moved to Plymouth, Indiana, in 1924. After three years in Plymouth, Indiana, they moved to Plymouth, Michigan, and later to Jackson, Michigan, and to Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1929. For a year and a half they resided on Russell street, then for two years on Melrose, after which they made their home at 318 Garland until the time of this writing in 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Perkey also became the parents of:

Charles Rensen, born November 11, 1925, in
Plymouth, Indiana, is in the Air Corps;

Patricia Florence, born August 26, 1928, in
Jackson, Michigan, is at home.

Maurice started in school at Plymouth, Michigan,

in 1927, then attended at Jackson and later in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he was graduated from the Central High School in 1939.

Military Experience

Maurice Samuel Perkey enlisted with the Marines June 15, 1942, and was sent to San Diego, California. Later he was transferred to Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, and shipped out from that port in January 1943 and was in New Zealand, Guadalcanal, Guam, Bougainville and Iwo Jima. He operated a walkie-talkie in radio communications and was killed in action during the first hour of battle on Iwo Jima February 25, 1945. Burial was in a Marine cemetery on Iwo Jima. He was awarded the Purple Heart which was sent to his parents.

Personal Characteristics

Maurice was six and one-half feet tall and weighed about one hundred sixty-five pounds with brown hair and eyes.

His hobby was commercial painting and some of the signs for the stores of Kalamazoo were painted by him.

He was an athlete and played first base on the Central High School first baseball team. As a spectator he enjoyed football and tennis.

Maurice was also musical and played the

trumpet in the High School band. He was also a member of the Marine orchestra on Guam. He was witty and an interesting conversationalist. From the time he enlisted he never returned to his home. He had no furlough.

Maurice Samuel Perkey attended the Stockbridge Methodist Church and the First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo, and he also attended the Tuxis Club of the latter Church.

His name is placed with those fine young men from Kalamazoo who made the supreme sacrifice and are enrolled with high honor in the memory of the people of Kalamazoo. May our country ever be worthy of the sacrifice made by Maurice and his buddies.

The following copy of a letter was written by
S/ Bruce T. Pegg:

Marianas Island Area
12 April 1945

Dear Mr. and Mrs Perkey,

I am hardly the proper one to be writing you a letter at this time but Maurice's buddies can't write the things now that I will try and say for them.

When I got here and learned that Maurice was also here, I called his headquarters to see if I could locate him. They told me that his outfit had just gone up to Iwo Jima. I kept calling and finally they told me that his company was back but he had been killed there. You see, this is his outfit's home base and they stay here between pushes.

Well, I went right to see his buddies. I

found three boys in his tent and they had one boy tell me what he knew.

First, he was killed on February 25 in the first hour of battle on Iwo Jima. He was operating a Walkie-talkie in the field artillery and when he raised his antenna, the Japs must have seen the reflection of the sun on it. Anyway there was a direct hit on him from a mortar. He was buried in a Marine Cemetery there.

It seems that Maurice was fondest of Patsy as the boys say he was always talking about her and they seemed to know as much about her as I do. They knew all about Chuck too.

They say he was a very good painter and his job while here was painting signs for his company area. He also painted portraits and was painting one on the way to Iwo Jima. He must have been very calm and composed to be able to paint while going into battle.

The boys say that he was the sharpie of the crowd and even had a native girl starch his shirts and press his uniforms.

Since the first time I was there I have talked to many men who knew him. Not once have I seen a man who knew him that didn't like him. It takes a very fine and true person to stay with one group of men for so long and never make an enemy.

You, of course, have my deepest sympathy and if there is anything I can do for you, just let me know.

Very sincerely yours,

The following is copied from a letter written to Mrs. Perkey by James M. Butler, Chaplain, USNR:

"Pfc. Perkey was well known in the regiment, and his neat signs still dot the place. He had done some beautiful work for the chapel, and I had come to know him quite well. Certainly he was a quiet and capable boy."

On April 8, 1945, at 4 P. M. a Memorial Service was held in the First Presbyterian Church in

Kalamazoo, Michigan. The pastor, the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., gave the memorial address, Miss Maralyn Kautenberg was the soloist and Miss Marion Johnstone was the accompanist. The program had a cut of Pfc. Maurice Samuel Perkey on the front page and below it was printed:

"Brave was the heart of him, kindness a part of him,
True to his faith and his fellows he stayed.
None could recall of him traits that were small
of him,
None had been hurt by the blunders he made."

"This we can tell of him, all men thought well of
him,
Home goes his spirit now, bearing no stain.
This we can say of him over the clay of him,
God will be proud to receive him again."

--Edgar A. Guest.

Edward George Perkins



E D W A R D G E O R G E P E R K I N S

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Private First Class Edward George Perkins was born in Barrow in Furness, England, August 20, 1919, son of Henry George and Christina Southern Perkins. Henry George Perkins was born in Gloucester, England, February 4, 1895, and Christina Southern was born in Maryport, England, January 31, 1890.

In 1923, Mr. Henry Perkins came to the United States and found employment. Fifteen months later he was joined by his wife and son. Henry's father accompanied Henry when he came to this country and Henry's mother came over with Henry's wife and son. These grandparents of Edward George Perkins remained in the United States for a time and then returned to England.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Perkins and their only child lived for some time in Syracuse, New York, and then in Fulton, New York, and later in Baltimore, Maryland. In March, 1940, they came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where Mr. Perkins found employment as a designing engineer with the Sutherland Paper Company.

Edward George, affectionately called "Ted,"

attended school for one month only before leaving England. In Syracuse, New York, he attended the grade school, and in Fulton, New York, did the work in junior high school. He was graduated from the City College in Baltimore, Maryland, at the age of seventeen.

While residing in Fulton, New York, Ted joined the Boy Scouts and in due time earned the merits which entitled him to the medal of an Eagle Scout, which was pinned on his uniform by his dad in a court of honor held in the Methodist Church.

After his graduation from college, Ted found employment with the Gas and Electric Power Company in Baltimore, Maryland, as an investigator, and remained with this company until he was called into the service of his country.

Ted was a church boy. He began his religious activities in England, was an altar boy and attended All Saints Episcopal Church in Fulton, New York; in Baltimore, Maryland, he attended St. Thomas Episcopal Church and sang in the choir. Occasionally he attended the Presbyterian Church. He was reared in a Christian home and was firmly grounded in the faith of his fathers.

Ted was inducted into the army in Baltimore, Maryland, January 28, 1942, and at first was

assigned to the Headquarters Department. Later he was transferred to the Radio Communications outfit and then to a Tank Destroyer Battalion. He received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, and was later transferred to Fort Benning, Georgia. In July 1942, he was sent overseas and saw duty in England and Scotland. While there he visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick George Perkins, who resided in Bradford, England.

When the invasion of Africa took place, Private First Class Edward George Perkins was among the first to set foot on that continent and was killed in action January 31, 1943, in Tunisia.

Ted was six feet tall, had dark hair and brown eyes. He was broad shouldered and carried himself with a fine military bearing. His winning smile and warm disposition were much appreciated by his many friends. He enjoyed classical music and liked to sing. He especially liked to be out of doors and spent most of his spare time in a sail boat on Chesapeake Bay. He was interested in athletics, football, baseball and hockey. He played baseball and was an enthusiastic fan for the game.

In January, 1944, Private First Class Edward George Perkins was posthumously awarded the Certificate with the Purple Heart Emblem, which was received

by his parents February 7, 1944.

Ted was a jolly lad when in groups of young people, but was serious minded and resolved with all the strength of his clean young manhood to make the most valuable contribution possible in making this a better world in which to live.

He was always a dependable boy and never gave his parents any reason to worry about him. He was thoughtful of their wishes and was deferential and courteous in his contact with others. He was one of those fine boys who have given the people of this nation good reason to be proud of them. We enroll his name in the honored list of young men who loved their fellow citizens enough to die for them. Greater love hath no man.

George W. Perrin



G E O R G E W P E R R I N

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George W. Perrin was born at Hickory Corners, Barry county, Michigan, April 11, 1856, the son of Immanuel Dake Perrin, who was born in New York and when a boy worked on the Erie Canal, married Eliza Ann Hannah April 18, 1855, and died in Michigan March 11, 1872. Eliza Ann Hannah was born in New York on October 15 in the early 1830's and died in Michigan June 13, 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Immanuel Dake Perrin were both of Scotch ancestry with an Irish strain. They were also the parents of:

Robert F., born February 26, 1858, died September 19, 1861;

William;

Mary Alice, born September 24, 1859. All these children were born and lived in Michigan.

George W. Perrin attended school in Hickory Corners and later in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

George's father died when George was sixteen years of age and the boy, being the eldest child in the family, undertook to carry on the farm work and help his mother support the family.

George's first employment other than at home was with the Eureka Wind Mill Company, Smith and Pomeroy being his employers. George was a salesman for the firm and his territory was unlimited. Later, he was a pioneer in selling and establishing equipment for irrigating orange groves in Florida.

His Marriage

On April 27, 1893, George W. Perrin was married to May Emeline DeLano, who was born December 27, 1868, in Kalamazoo county, Michigan, the daughter of Nelson DeLano, a native of Kalamazoo county, and Julia James DeLano, who was born in Wisconsin.

May Emeline DeLano had one brother, Dale, who now, in 1943, lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and one sister, Luna, who married Cliff Siple and passed away some years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Perrin began their home life together in the village of Climax, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, where he had established a department store. They became the parents of Donna, who married Donald Stewart of Kalamazoo, Michigan, now deceased. Mrs. Stewart became the mother of Maida and Natalie and resides in Detroit, Michigan.

After three years in Climax, Mr. and Mrs. Perrin moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he was employed

for a number of years with the Morris Kent Produce Company.

Purchase Home

About 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Perrin purchased a large home at 729 West Michigan avenue in Kalamazoo, a house built in the early 1870's by a Mr. Beerstecher, formerly with the Kalamazoo daily paper published at that time.

Some years after acquiring possession of this property Mr. Perrin remodelled it by adding a store building which he leased to a druggist and the Perrins went to the Pacific coast for about two years, after which they returned to assume the management of the property.

When he was past seventy years of age Mr. Perrin retired from active business.

Personal Characteristics

In personal appearance, Mr. Perrin was slightly below medium height and of stocky build. He had brown hair and blue eyes. He was a witty man, fond of playing practical jokes which kept his friends and acquaintances amused.

He was an extensive, but discriminating reader, enjoyed playing "solitaire" and attending ball games or listening to the radio announcer tell about the plays.

One of the things which Mr. Perrin most enjoyed doing was to help boys who were trying to prepare themselves for careers of usefulness. He could read character very accurately and a number of worthy young men struggling hard to make a place for themselves in the world were given substantial encouragement and assistance. With Mrs. Perrin, his gracious and kindly companion through the years, many young people were welcomed to the home and sent away determined to make good.

Mr. Perrin was well liked by the citizens of Kalamazoo and was honored and beloved by his family and close friends.

Death came to him suddenly at his home August 5, 1943. Funeral services were conducted by his friend, the Reverend John Wirt Dunning, D. D., and interment was in the cemetery at Cooper, Michigan.

Herbert Edward Persons



H E R B E R T E D W A R D P E R S O N S

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Herbert Edward Persons was born on a farm near Manson, Iowa, April 2, 1879, son of Judson Mack and Mary Hitchcock Persons, of Scotch and English descent. This was a family of prominent Baptists. His paternal grandfather, Reuben Persons, was a Baptist minister, an uncle, Eugene, taught in the Baptist College in Des Moines, Iowa, four cousins entered the ministry, one, Dr. Clarence Van Horn, organized and for ten years was head of mathematics in Judson (Baptist) College, Rangoon, Burma, later he became head of the department of mathematics in Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee. Herbert E. Persons had three sisters: Abigail Jane, who resides in Sac City, Iowa; Clare, who married C. M. Mohler and resides in Sac City; Harriet Philema, who resides in Manson, Iowa. He also had a half-sister, Emma Frances Young, a teacher in Lakeview, Iowa.

After completing the eighth grade in the rural school, Mr. Persons attended the high school in Rockwell City, Iowa, and then spent some time in a Baptist Academy at Sac City, known as the "Sac City

Institute." In 1905, he came to Kalamazoo and pursued his studies in Kalamazoo College up to his junior year. When in academy he belonged to the debating team and in college was active in the "Century Forum" literary society.

While a student he earned money for his expenses as a salesman and after leaving college he built up an independent furnace, cistern and septic tank business. He spent the summer of 1904 at St. Louis, Missouri, as chair guide at the Louisiana Purchase exposition and won a number of prizes for serving the largest number of patrons.

September 15, 1906, he was married to Mary E. Kingsbury, who was born March 6, 1876, daughter of Mary Oakes, St. Clair, of pioneer stock, and William A. Kingsbury, a Baptist minister, who served in Michigan for more than twenty-five years.

Mr. and Mrs. Persons are the parents of:

Edward Kingsbury, born September 15, 1907, married Lois Elaine Milburn and is the father of William Robert, born March 7, 1933, Ruth Mary, born Harriet Eileen, born April 24, 1939 - resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

William Judson, born September 26, 1910, married Frances Augusta Stewart and is the father of John Edward Persons, born

At the age of fourteen Herbert E. Persons

united with a rural Baptist Church south of Manson, Iowa, and while in Sac City, Iowa, he served as clerk of the Baptist Church in that place. In Kalamazoo he became a member of the First Baptist Church and later transferred his membership to the Bethel Baptist Church.

Mr. Persons was an ardent Prohibitionist and was a forceful advocate of the cause. He was a candidate for the Board of Agriculture in 1935 and at different times for several other offices on the state and local tickets of the Prohibition party. He attended at least four of the national conventions of the party as a delegate and at the Niagara Falls convention he represented the Michigan delegation in making the nominating speech naming D. Leigh Colvin for president. He also served as a member of the State Central Committee and at the time of his death was on the Platform Committee and chairman of Kalamazoo County. His ardent devotion to the Prohibition Party was equalled only by his loyalty to his church.

He took a keen interest in public affairs, especially in matters pertaining to schools, and had an active part in the efforts which secured the erection of the Lincoln school building in Kalamazoo.

Later, when he moved into the district just south of the city, he served for a time on the school board. About two weeks before his death a Parent Teachers Association was organized in the South Westnedge school. Though unable to attend, he sent in his dues, and so became a charter member.

In his business he was conscientious and gave his patrons the best of service. He was a devoted husband and father, always gladly working for his loved ones even to the point of sacrifice. Once when urged by his wife to take some recreation he said, "My greatest pleasure is working for you and the boys."

May 28, 1926, he fell from a roof and fractured his elbow and pelvic bone, but upon recovery he continued his work with courage in spite of the handicap with which the injury left him. For the last three years of his life his son William was a partner in the business. The family has made its home in Kalamazoo from its beginning except for a short period spent in Wyoming in the spring of 1909.

Death came to Mr. Persons December 27, 1939. The funeral was conducted at the residence, 3708 South Westnedge Avenue, by the Reverend Richard V. Clearwaters of Minneapolis, Minnesota, formerly

Text: "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days, so shall thy strength be." Deuteronomy 33:35.

Poems

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless
 deep
Turns again home.

For, though from out our bourne of time and
place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

B. An anonymous excerpt:

Life, we've been long together,
 Through pleasant and through stormy weather;
 'Tis hard to part when friends are dear,
 Perhaps 'twill cost a sigh, a tear,
 So steal away,
 Give little warning;
 Say not "Good Night"
 But in some brighter clime
 Bid me "Good Morning".

C. An anonymous excerpt:

Death is the dialogue
 Between the spirit and the dust.
 "Dissolve" says death,
 The spirit, "Sir, I have another trust."
 Death doubts it,
 Argues from the ground,
 The spirit turns away,
 Just laying off for evidence
 The overcoat of clay.

On a recent evening it was our privilege to visit with Mr. Persons in what we know now was our last earthly fellowship with this blessed spirit, because it was shortly after two o'clock the following morning when the Lord came and called him home.

As I try to review and revive in your memories this heroic soul it seems to be that this life can almost be summed up with a single word: "Honesty". As a fine Christian layman he was almost severely honest with God's Son, God's Word and God's people.

1. He was honest with God's Son: one could not have known him very long without learning that he had, quite early in life, given his heart to God's Son and claimed Him as his Saviour.

In fact the definite and powerful influence of the Saviour in his life reminds me of an instance of a traveler of old. This traveler came to see the great Freiberg organ of Saxony. After considerable persuasion the custodian of the organ allowed the unknown traveler to try his skill on the famous instrument. When he

had made to have finished the custodian urged him to go on, and again and again the organ was made to resemble a man sobbing in distress, the singing of a nightingale, the crying of a child, or the surge of mighty breakers on some rock-bound coast. When the traveler had finished and made to leave the custodian urgently inquired of him, "And please Sir, what is your name?" He was reluctant to give his name but finally he said in leaving, "My name is Mendelssohn." "And," said the custodian, "to think that I almost missed having Mendelssohn play on my organ!" Early in life this one surrendered his life to the Master of all good music that can come from the social, economic, political, intellectual life - the Lord Jesus Christ.

"O to have no Christ, no Saviour,
How lonely life must be;
Like a sailor lost and driven
On a wild and shoreless sea.
O to have no Christ, no Saviour,
No hand to clasp thine own,
Through the dark, dark, vale of shadows
Thou must press thy way alone."

2. He was honest with God's Word: In these days of doubt and denial about the authority and finality of the "Thus saith the Lord" which we find in the only Book which acclaims God as its author, the Bible, he stood firm at all times and never failed to cling to this precious revelation. The dominant major of his life, as regarded the Word of God, seemed to be, "Nothing above that which is written."

Perhaps the sixth chapter of John would give us as good an illustration of this conviction in his life as we could find. You will recall that Jesus was there celebrating the Passover with his disciples and, as was His oft repeated custom, He put Himself into the Passover as the Passover Lamb. When Jesus came to say, "Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day," we read in the same record, "Many therefore of his disciples when they

heard this, said, this is an hard saying; who can hear it?", and this same record tells us "from that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with Him." Comment upon this seems unnecessary, but shall we pause to say those disciples of old did not go away from Jesus' teaching that His shed blood was required for the forgiveness of sins, but they went away from the Teacher, Jesus Christ, and the record tells us they walked no more with Him. As I understood the honesty of Brother Persons, as he held to his Bible, this would illustrate perfectly his convictions. Some in our day have professed to claim loyalty to Jesus Christ and have plainly rejected much of His plain teaching but, according to the record of God's Word, they, like those disciples of old, must accept Jesus Christ and His teaching - because the same single record that gives us the Christ gives us His teaching - they stand or fall together.

3. He was honest with God's people. At this point I speak advisedly, trusting that I shall not be misunderstood. Brother Persons' honesty with God's people, at times, could be called almost brutally frank. But I wonder if even in this he was not following a close allegiance to his Saviour, who on one occasion turned to a disciple whom He loved so dearly and plainly and boldly addressed him, "Get thee behind me, Satan." In this day when diplomacy, even in private life among Christians, has made liars of so many, it is refreshing to meet a soul like this who is courageous enough in his conception of Christian kindness to be truly honest with his fellow Christians.

This honesty with God's people came out so clearly on so many occasions when he gave evidence and witness that he, in his youth, had felt called to the ministry. In fact at times he questioned if his life had not been a failure because he had not answered this call. For five and one half years I served a church in this city but I dare say, as a Christian witness and a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, that this brother, like others whom I could name that are here today in this service, is

better known in this city than the Lord's servant who speaks to you now.

MY LIFE

"Behind my life the weaver stands
And works his wondrous will;
I leave it in his all-wise hands,
And trust his perfect skill.

Should mystery enshroud his plan,
And my short sight be dim
I will not try the whole to scan,
But leave each thread with him.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Will the Lord unroll the canvas
And tell us the reason why.

The dark threads were as needful
In the skillful weaver's hands,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern he had planned."

This leads me logically to say a word about his honesty in business. Truly "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass" (and I dare say there is not one in my hearing who could finish this verse) is a text suited to his life. How well do I recall when a boy in school my father would take the new shoes and have brass toe-caps and heel plates fixed on them. He knew only too well that that long trek along the gravel and cobble stones of the railroad track, which we walked to school, would soon wear out ordinary shoes. Even so the Lord has promised in His word for those who shall travel hard roads, as this one traveled, with accident and pain. With his life before us now let us think of the fuller text, "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; as thy days, so shall thy strength be."

Another instance of his honesty with God's people was his ardent interest in trying to kill King Alcohol. Perhaps no greater curse rests upon society today than this. He was ever hurt by the indifference of Christian people to this appalling menace. It was my

privilege to have been with him in one of the Prohibition Party conventions and elections. To me, and I think many others, the cause seemed almost hopeless, but how well I recall his standing on the floor and pleading with everyone present to renew their interest and enthusiasm "for such a time as this." In fact the only words with which I could sum up his spirit in this regard would be those words of Brownings:

"One who never turned his back but marched
breast forward,
Never doubted clouds would break,
Never dreamed, though right were worsted,
wrong would triumph,
Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight
better,
Sleep to wake."

May I conclude this memorial message with the words of the poet:

Alone I walked the ocean's strand,
A pearly shell was in my hand;
I stopped and wrote upon the sand
My name, the year, the date.
As onward from the spot I passed
One lingering look behind I cast;
A wave came rolling high and fast,
And washed my line away.
And so, methought, 'twill shortly be
Of every mark on earth for me,
A wave of dark oblivious sea
Will sweep across the place
Where I have trod the sandy shores of time.
Of me, my frame, the name I bore
To leave no track nor trace.
And yet to Him who counts the sands,
And holds the waters in His hands,
I know inscribed against my name
A lasting record stands,
Of all this mortal part hath wrought
Of all this thinking soul hath thought,
And from these fleeting moments caught
For glory or for shame.

Rev. Richard V. Clearwaters

Written in 1940

E. J. Phelps



EDWIN J. PHELPS.

Edwin J. Phelps, 80, one of Kalamazoo's most widely known and highly respected citizens, died at 9:15 Friday morning, November 20, 1925, at his residence, 610 West Cedar Street. He had been seriously ill for the last 10 days, though his actual decline in health began two years ago when he underwent a serious operation to prolong his life.

Mr. Phelps came to Kalamazoo with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Phelps, when a mere boy. He was born in Marshall. His first business connections in this city were with the old Michigan National bank, where he started as office boy and collector, working under the direction of the late William A. Wood and the late John W. Taylor. He rose to the position of cashier with the Michigan National and in 1882 resigned his position to establish the private banking house of E. J. Phelps and Company. His associates were M. J. Bigelow and J. W. Thompson.

LONG A BANKER

This enterprise prospered from its inception and two years later, being in need of more capital, Mr. Phelps organized the Kalamazoo National Bank, that

concern being capitalized at \$150,000 and opening its doors July 1, 1884, or over 41 years ago. Mr. Phelps was elected president of the Kalamazoo National, an office he held steadily until 1923, or 39 years. Closely associated with him all these years was M. J. Bigelow, who was elected first vice president of the bank, an office he still retains. At the same time Mr. Bigelow was in partnership with Horace Phelps under the name of the I. X. L. Windmill Company and Phelps and Bigelow, both concerns manufacturing wind mills.

During this period of 39 years, the Kalamazoo National bank expanded from an institution with a capital of \$150,000 and deposits of a few hundred thousands to a bank capitalized at \$500,00 and with deposits approximating \$5,000,000.

As head of this institution Mr. Phelps established a record truly remarkable in the banking world. Character was everything to him in his dealings with men. He would rather loan money to a man of known honesty, than to an individual of financial soundness, yet lacking in the elements of real honesty. Knowing his debtor and believing him honest in intentions, Mr. Phelps would stand by him through the severest business ordeals. While on occasions it resulted in losses, the gains for the

bank were far greater and all over Kalamazoo today are well established business concerns, whose existence were made possible only through his loyalty.

FAILS AFTER OPERATION

"If it hadn't been for E. J. Phelps, I don't know where I would have been today" is a remark that has been made by any number of businessmen, who have been able to weather business storms solely due to his support, advice and encouragement.

Two years ago Mr. Phelps was forced to undergo a very serious operation. While he recovered and was able to be about apparently as usual, it was found advisable to relieve him of the pressing duties of a bank executive. At that time his resignation as president was accepted and Walter L. Otis was named his successor. Mr. Phelps at the same time was retained as chairman of the board.

Equal to his interest in the development and management of the Kalamazoo National bank was his loyalty to his church. Ever since coming to Kalamazoo he has been a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, serving several terms as trustee of that Church. He was also treasurer of the Bronson Methodist Hospital. He was interested in the Bay View Resort Association, a Methodist society with property just north of Petoskey, where in years past

great summer assemblages were held. Other offices held by him in years past were treasurer of the Kalamazoo State hospital and the Michigan Annual Methodist Conference.

PROMINENT MASON

In addition to the numerous affiliations already noted, Mr. Phelps was a member of Kalamazoo lodge No. 22, A. F. and A. M. and Peninsular Commandery, Knight Templars. He held a life membership in lodge No. 22.

The immediate survivors are his wife, one daughter, Miss Lillie M., Kalamazoo; a son, the Reverend William H. Phelps, Detroit, editor of the Michigan Christian Advocate, and a sister, Miss Harriet D. Phelps, Kalamazoo.

-----Kalamazoo Gazette,
November 20, 1925.

Claude Herbert Pierce



C L A U D E H E R B E R T P I E R C E

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Claude Herbert Pierce was born in Comstock, Michigan, February 21, 1925, son of Claude R. and Myrtle Caswell Pierce of remote Pennsylvania Dutch and German extraction. The other children in the family are: William A., Josephine and Maxine (twins), Edna, Bernard and Bernice (twins), Russell, Evelyn, Lillian, deceased at two and one-half years of age, Wayne, Elmer, Glenna, Patsy, Marvin and Martin (twins).

Russell is in Grand Bend, Kansas, in the Radio Mechanic Air Force; Bernard is serving with the RCN in Italy; Josephine married Lyle Bush and lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and he is in the Army; Maxine married Johnny Kubizna and lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan; Edna married John Wilmer and lives in Denver, Colorado; Bernice married Don Wolverton and resides with her parents; William married Alma Dinnerboiler and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan; Russell married Arlene Ellard. All the other children reside with their parents, except Martin who died at birth.

Claude attended the Comstock schools, after

which he worked at various places until he was inducted into the Armed Services April 26, 1943, and was sent to Camp Croft, South Carolina, for basic training. From there he was granted a furlough and came home. After his return from furlough he was sent to Fort Mead, Maryland, in September 1943, and was sent overseas early in October, 1943. Less than five months later he lost his life in action near Sicily January 23, 1944. He was in action in three major battles.

Personal Characteristics

Pvt. Pierce was five feet eight and one-half inches in height, of slender build, had blonde hair, brown eyes and was physically strong and sturdy. He enjoyed all the sports of an active young man. He was a baseball fan, went swimming in the summer time. He was fond of music and played the guitar very well. He liked to go to picture shows and pal around with the boys. He enjoyed reading and loved his home and family. He showed his affection for his parents by writing them often, a pastime which he especially liked. He was a good boy.

Private Claude Herbert Pierce loved life and its activities. He played well his part in his home town and in the service of his country. Finally he made the supreme sacrifice for a better

world for his father and mother, brothers and sisters
and the rest of the people in these United States.

The foregoing was written in October, 1944.



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Della Pierce

D E L L A P . P I E R C E

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Della Priscilla Pierce was born February 13, 1854, on the "Round House" farm, near Granby Center, Oswego County, New York state. She was the daughter of Jonathan and Celista Burnham Pierce.

Jonathan Pierce bought a large farm of timber land on the highway running South from, and about ten miles distant from, Oswego on the shore of Lake Neahtawanta, which was a mile wide. He cleared the land and built a house, octagon in form, two stories high in front and because the ground sloped toward the lake it was three stories high in the rear. Two verandas, one for each story, ran all the way around the house. On the top was a cupola from which one could look across the lake and see the trains on the Syracuse and Oswego railway pass through the station at Phillipsville. On account of the shape of the building it was known as the "Round House." The road which passed the house running from Granby Center to West Granby was a rough dirt road almost impassable during the spring and fall in those early days. Since that time it has become a graded state highway. It was a sightly place, as well as a

sight-seeing place, and many people came for miles to see it. Here Della Pierce was born and spent her childhood. Her father and mother were both of English descent and of a long line of pioneers extending back to the first colonists from old England, who settled first in Connecticut and, as time passed, migrated westward. The other children in the family were: Lois Amelia, who married Francis A. Schoonmaker in 1870; Clifton Jonathan, Effie Celista, and Leila Burnham who died in 1881.

During the first six years of her life Della was not well. She had a peculiar disease which gave a peculiar color to her skin and on account of which she was called the "blue baby." When she first went to school a mile away she would sometimes become so weak that she could not walk and had to be carried. In spite of this handicap Della developed physically and used to ride the horses, milk the cows and do other farm work.

About 1862 the family moved to the "Pink House" at Granby Center. This was because Della's father enlisted as a soldier when Lincoln made his last call. He joined the 127th Regiment New York Volunteers. Shortly before the close of the Civil War the soldier father was discharged on account of ill

health and returned home. During this time the farm had been rented. The father's return from the army was in the winter of 1863. The farm was still rented. Mr. Pierce was not well enough to do farm work. He bought the "Brown House" at Granby Center and put in a grocery store in which Della gained some business experience.

Later the family returned to the "Round House" and Della began attending school at Falley Seminary in Fulton, rooming with a sister in a pleasant room and boarding themselves with provisions from home, and spending the time each week from Friday night till Monday morning at the "Round House."

In 1870 the family came to Michigan and established a home at Midland. This location was selected by the father after going through several states. The pine forests enticed him, so he sold the farm in New York and with two other men bought a large tract of pine forest. The Pere Marquette railway was then extending its line to Ludington with its tracks near Coleman. The family remained at Midland while the father went to Coleman and boarded the railroad men with provisions cooked by the family in Midland and sent on to Coleman. At that time he built part of the house on block 42 in Coleman.

In one of the rooms of the house in Coleman Della at the age of sixteen taught her first school. That was in 1871 and was the first school in Coleman. Later the father built a little school house at the end of the block and Sunday School and other religious meetings were held in it. In 1871 the entire family moved to Coleman and this was the home town to which Della returned for vacations when attending Albion College.

HER HIGHER EDUCATION

While in Midland Della borrowed medical books from a physician and laid plans for entering Albion College, where she entered about 1873. While she was in Albion College her father's lumber mill burned and crippled his finances so that Della was compelled to teach at Freeland to secure funds to continue in college. She taught one year but was able to graduate with her class in 1877, and later earned the degree of Master of Arts.

Della Pierce had taken her preparatory work in Falley Seminary, a noted school, at Fulton, New York state. When she registered at Albion College, the fact that at Falley Seminary she had been a pupil of two of Prof. William M. Osband's cousins, brought her at once to the attention of two exceptionally

inspiring teachers, Prof. Osband and his wife, Mrs. Lucy A. Osband. Mrs. Osband besides being professor of modern languages, was preceptress and had charge of the dormitory. She at once assigned Miss Pierce to a room opposite her own apartments and chose her own sister, Miss Bertha F. Aldrich for her roommate. She also gave Miss Pierce the care of her apartment so that Miss Pierce was thus able to pay her own room rent. Prof. Osband's subjects, chemistry and biology, were in line with Miss Pierce's early desire to study medicine, and he encouraged her in this ambition. The friendship thus begun was deep and lifelong and Miss Pierce was almost like a daughter in their home.

In college life Dr. Pierce's strong character, intellectual ability and devotion to principle, combined with her good sense and sturdy qualities, made her a leader. Her independence, honesty and originality were marked even then. Falley Seminary and Albion College both emphasized the religious element in life and were congenial to Miss Pierce's own devotion to her church and its ideals. The Sunday chapel service and weekly prayer meetings were very dear to her.

In those days fraternities were tabu at Albion,

but literary societies furnished social and intellectual diversions. Albion College had two such societies. One, the Erosophian, had both men and women members and perhaps for that reason emphasized the social side. The other was made up of two, one for men and one for women, but they were always named together as one, the Eclectic and Athenaiades. They both emphasized the serious side of college life and the Athenaiades was chiefly made up of the so-called "strong-minded" women students, who believed firmly in "women's rights," including suffrage, and emphasized debating in their programs. Dr. Pierce served as its president at one time. One member for a year was Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, and Dr. Pierce's friendship for her was also life-long. But while Dr. Shaw flitted restlessly from Albion to Northwestern, from medicine to the ministry and from that to the lecture platform in behalf of woman suffrage, Dr. Pierce went steadily to her goal of medicine against many obstacles and through many years until she attained her doctor's degree and then devoted the rest of her life to her chosen profession.

Two incidents in Dr. Pierce's Albion life left a lasting impress on her later life. The first was

that when her roommate Miss Aldrich graduated, the year before Miss Pierce did, Prof. and Mrs. Osband's graduating present to their sister was a trip to New York City and the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia with a week beside to the sea at Ocean Grove, New Jersey, and Miss Pierce was included in the party and the gift. The love of travel thus stimulated led in later years to European travel, during which period she wrote weekly travel letters for the newspaper then edited by Prof. Osband.

The other incident involved a tragic postponement for ten years of the longed-for medical course. When the famous Mrs. Mary A. Livermore lectured at Albion the year Miss Pierce graduated, Mrs. Osband drew her attention to Miss Pierce's hope to study medicine and brought them together. Mrs. Livermore was so favorably impressed that she promised to see if she could obtain for Miss Pierce a scholarship in the Boston University medical school as soon as she could return home and make the arrangements, when she would write. Weeks passed and as no letter came, Miss Pierce decided to seek a teaching position. She made trips to several places, including Canfield, Ohio, where she was elected preceptress. On her return home, there was still no word from Mrs.

Livermore, so Miss Pierce sent in her acceptance to the Canfield school board. A few days later, the letter which had been following her around a day behind on her trip, arrived, stating that the scholarship and a way to pay her expenses had been granted and urging her to come to Mrs. Livermore's own home until she could get settled. Though there was ample time to get another teacher, the Canfield board insisted on refusing to release her from her contract, so with her usual devotion to her principles and regard for her word, Miss Pierce declined the Boston offer and taught in the little Ohio town. The Boston opportunity did not come again, so for a decade Miss Pierce taught and was connected with a business in Saginaw until from her meagre wages she had saved enough to finance her medical course at the University of Michigan.

The class of 1877 at Albion College of which Miss Pierce was a member, numbered eleven members, and the members of the group were unusually congenial and closely bound together, a relationship that in most cases lasted through life. Prof. and Mrs. Osband were regarded as sponsors by the class, then and thereafter. Two ministers well known in Michigan, Rev. George Buell, later of Kalamazoo, and

Rev. George Lauback, were members. Others included the late Charles M. Ranger and his wife, the lovely Lilly Robertson of Battle Creek, both later alumni trustees of the college; Mrs. Ranger's sister, Miss Clara Robertson; Frank E. Clark, long a teacher in Michigan and still living at Savannah, New York; Miss Ada A. Norton, for many years associate professor of mathematics at the Michigan State Normal School at Ypsilanti, where she resides; Prof. Newton A. Richards, long principal of the Saginaw high school and still a resident of that city; J. Howard Rose, a brilliant newspaper man who died young in Detroit; John Roach, who went west and lost touch with the class; and Mrs. Rose Knapp Buck of Stevensville, Montana. The class had honored Dr. Pierce with office during its college days and for over fifty years thereafter she was class allumni secretary, and annually sent out letters to each member whose address she had, telling of the other members. About twenty-five years ago, the class had a reunion at the College Commencement, at which a majority of the members were present. One of its features was a poem written by Dr. Pierce and endorsed by the rest that was sent to Prof. and Mrs. Osband at Ypsilanti, and was a great pleasure to them. This class

provided a scholarship for senior students.

Following her graduation from Albion College Della taught school in Mt. Pleasant in 1878; in Muskegon in 1879 and in 1880 was principal at Canfield, Ohio. In 1881 Della became bookkeeper with Burnham, Spaulding and Co., of Saginaw. She was then working to secure funds to enter her medical training. She spent five years in this position.

About 1886 Della entered the medical department of the University of Michigan. For two summers she returned to Saginaw to keep books for Burnham, Spaulding and Company. She graduated with honors at the head of her class in 1890 and received the degree of doctor of medicine, one of the first six women to receive that degree.

In 1892 Dr. Pierce was made superintendent of the Woman's Hospital in Saginaw and served two years and organized the training school for nurses.

In 1893 Dr. Della Pierce came to Kalamazoo and opened her office for the practice of medicine and surgery and continued until shortly before her death which occurred at her home, 458 West South Street, May 9, 1935.

Dr. Pierce was a member of the Kalamazoo Academy of Medicine, the Michigan State Medical Society,

and the American Medical Association.

In 1902 Dr. Pierce attended the Grand Chapter Alpha Epsilon Iota convention in Chicago and is listed on the program as an affiliate member.

Dr. Pierce has always been very active in the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church and taught a class in the Sunday school while in Saginaw.

Dr. Pierce was a writer of poetry and several manuscripts bear witness to her ability as a writer. She wrote one article on "The Hygiene of the Bible." Another is the affirmative in a debate on "Resolved that co-educational institutions are more desirable for women's education than are women's colleges." Another manuscript is entitled, "Microscopes and their History." At the time of her graduation from Albion College she gave the "Farewell to Eclectic and Athenaiades," literary society.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. William C. Perdew, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church and Dr. John C. Floyd of Grand Rapids. The latter paid the following tribute:

"Dr. Della Pierce lived steadfastly with the intention of following the gleam; to do the will of God, to help her fellow men, to think of others, which is the greatest thing one can do."

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Robert Louis Pikkart



R O B E R T L O U I S P I K K A A R T

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Robert Louis Pikkaart was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 28, 1922, son of Peter and Jennie Newhouse Pikkaart. Both parents were natives of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and were educated in the Kalamazoo schools.

Robert had one brother, Harold Nelson, who was born December 21, 1920, married Marie Kalleward and they became the parents of Patricia Ann, who was born [REDACTED]. Harold Nelson is Private First Class in the Military Police of the Armed Service and is now (1945) stationed in Hawaii.

Robert attended the South Burdick school and was an exceptional student, making the eight grades in seven years. He entered the Millwood school for his ninth grade and took the next three years in Central High School and was graduated in 1940. He also attended Parsons Business School. His major interest was in mathematics and the social sciences.

The Placement Committee at Central High School found employment for Robert with the Star Paper Company for a time after which he was employed by the Upjohn Company, where he became a clerk in the accounting department.

Military Experience

Robert Louis Pikkaart enlisted in the Army Air Corps December 1, 1942, and was called in February 1943 and sent to Miami, Florida. Later he was sent to Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, for special training. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and received his wings at Columbus, Mississippi, March 12, 1944. He was at Chanute Field for wing training on a B-17 and was classified as First Pilot. He then went to Dyersburg, Tennessee, for his crew and trained with them.

In the latter part of October, 1944, Second Lieutenant Robert Louis Pikkaart left the United States and arrived in Foggia, Italy, about November 5, 1944.

The following is a copy of the story of the death of Lieutenant Robert Pikkaart from a composite letter from the surviving members of his crew: On December 2, 1944, Bob flew as co-pilot on a raid to Blechhammer, Germany. His plane developed engine trouble

several miles short of the target and they were forced to turn back.

While over the Adriatic Sea, number two engine caught fire and the pilot ordered the crew to bail out. The Navigator, Bombadier, Radio Gunner, Tail Gunner and Engineer complied with the order, the two Waist Gunners evidently didn't understand his command for they failed to jump.

Bob was wearing a life preserver - the pilot had left his on the ground so he couldn't jump and we assume that Bob decided to remain and help bring the ship to a safe landing in the water as it would have been almost impossible for one man to have done this job. The ship had lost so much altitude they were unable to make a landing and the plane went into a spin and exploded when it struck the water.

A convoy directly below reported six parachutes left the ship and of the six picked up two were dead. The other men returned to the squadron the next day for duty, from where the information came.

Bob was on his fourth mission and would have been OK'd as first pilot and gone with his own crew members after this mission. His crew members write: "We hated to lose Lt. Pikkaart as he was a fine young man, an excellent pilot as well as a friend we admired. We don't think there is another pilot that

we can trust as we did Lt. Pikkaart. He knew all that he could possibly know about flying and was well qualified for a first pilot. We are very confident that Bob and the pilot did everything they could to make a successful ditching of the plane."

"We valued Lt. Pikkaart's friendship very highly and he was very proud of the crew and we were proud of the way he handled us."

Personal Characteristics

Robert was five feet ten and $\frac{1}{2}$ inches tall and had brown hair and blue eyes. He was of slender build, standing erect with a splendid physique. He was very friendly and the members of his crew valued highly his friendship. This was also true of many others among both the young and older people. His sincere manner inspired confidence. He was well liked by his teachers and his employers and highly respected by all who knew him.

Robert was a member of the Bethany Reformed Church and Sunday School and belonged to the Sunday School base ball team and also their basket ball team. While in the Air Corps he filled out a religious commitment card and wrote "yes" after each of the following questions: Do you believe in God? Do you feel that you have broken God's just laws?

Do you feel the need of Christ as a Saviour? Have you accepted Jesus Christ personally? Do you pray? Do you read your Bible? Do you attend services as you are able? Do you feel God's presence with you? In answer to the question, Your favorite Bible Verse? he wrote, John 15:12-18; in answer to the question: Your favorite hymn? he wrote, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." After "Personal Comment": he wrote, "I'll write soon to let you know how God has looked over me and helped me in the Air Corps."

The following is a copy of a letter received by Robert's parents:

February 5, 1945

My dear Mr. Pikkaart:

At the request of the President, I write to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, Second Lieutenant Robert L. Pikkaart, Air Corps, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

Little we can do or say will console you for the death of your loved one. We profoundly appreciate the greatness of your loss, for in a very real sense the loss suffered by any of us in this battle for our country, is a loss shared by all of us. When the medal, which you will shortly receive, reaches you, I want you to know that with it goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time and the victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief.

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Stimson

Robert Louis Pikkaart, the citizens of this

country and particularly the citizens of Kalamazoo, Michigan, appreciate the sacrifice you have made in your heroic death while trying to help your pilot save your ship. Your name is enrolled with the names of other fine young men of Kalamazoo whose memories we highly honor and devotedly cherish.

Greater love hath no man that he lay down his life for his friends.

The following are copies of tributes paid to Robert Louis Pikkaart by those who knew him well:

"Lt. Robert Pikkaart, known to most of his teachers and classmates as "Bob," was well liked by all. We looked to him as a fine example of young Christian manhood. He had high ideals, clean thoughts and speech; was immaculate in dress; and had a pleasant, natural smile for all. Bob was a willing worker, always ready to do a little more than was asked or expected of him. What he did was also of a most high quality.

"In addition to being a good scholar, Bob also enjoyed athletics — and participated in them freely, especially baseball and basketball, which made him an all-around young man.

"All of us loved him, and his passing in such a noble way is deeply felt by all who knew him as a true friend and companion.

Kryn Rynbrand"

"To the family of Robert Pikkaart:

"We often said, even while "Bob" was with us, 'He's the type of young man we always hoped to work with, to train for leadership in Christ's church.' His personality enabled him to endear himself to the group, ('gang' as he called them) so that no matter what he proposed in fun and frolic or in the develop-

ment of the spiritual side of their lives, Bob could cause them to get right in there and carry through.

"His enthusiasm, quick tilt of the head and a rather impish grin carried the 'gang' over any rough spot; while on the other hand his wrinkled brow and intent eyes could make the whole group strive and search for the truths and cause them to feel a responsibility to God.

"In discussions he was ready with an answer and prepared at all times to give a reason for his faith. On many occasions the writer was strengthened because of the faith, trust and understanding of one so young. It made us feel that the work of the Kingdom was worth all of the time we could give it. As we watched Bob develop it caused us to want to give more and more of our time to the young folks with so many potentialities. As we worked with several groups of young people one thing should be mentioned here for the sake of any who read this, - Bob was a perfect example of what home training and environment can do to a boy or girl. Bob had something to start with that many young fellows haven't as they come up to prepare for leadership training in God's service.

"In conclusion, we just want to say his most outstanding characteristic to us, aside from his well rounded personality, was his eager, ever ready 'Sure, I'll do it,' or 'Sure, we'll do it'. No matter what the task, mean, mighty or fun it was always 'Sure - come on gang'. His enthusiasm, organizational ability and spiritual understanding carried through any project that was his to accomplish. Bob had no enemies, belonged to no special cliques, but was loved dearly by everyone in the Christian Endeavor Society, - and everywhere. We miss him greatly but are happy in the thought he was one of Christ's own.

Sincerely,

Bethany Christian Endeavor

by: John L. Vander Linde
Evelyn H. Vander Linde"

"In memory of Lt. Robert Pikkaart as his Sunday School teacher for three years, I pay high tribute to him as one of the most faithful scholars of his class of twenty-four young men. He was willing at all times to help promote good fellowship; took part in the discussions of the lessons and was President of the class for two years. His work was done well. He was a real follower of our Lord Jesus Christ and will be greatly missed in the class and also in the Church."

Signed: John Newhouse

Robert was engaged to Henrietta Smith and planned on getting married on his return from overseas.

The Reverend J. A. Veldman, pastor of the Calvary Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and formerly a pastor of the Bethany Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, of which Robert was a member, wrote:

"Robert (Bob) Pikkaart, who gave his life for his country in the World War, grew up in the fellowship of the Bethany Reformed Church. Coming from a splendid Christian home and possessing a natural ability to be friendly and make friends, Robert soon became the center of many activities. His kindly and conscientious ways made him loved in his home and Church. Bob had a fine sense of humor and seldom seemed depressed. He was a fine athlete and was natural in his ability in all forms of athletics and worked hard always to win. In everything he did he gave to the utmost and this was also true of his worship of God.

"In this youthful earnest spirit he entered the service of his country. Again his ability was recognized and he received his commission as an officer. In his trips home on furloughs he seemed well trained and fearless. He was

anxious to get in that great hard game of war to test what God gave him against the deadly energy. In the pursuit of duty he fought, fought hard and well, and although he lost his earthly life, I am sure he won other greater honors as he followed his favorite tilt, laying down his life for his friends. Men like him live on with God thru Jesus Christ his Saviour and Captain. I am proud to have known him, to have been his pastor and his friend. May God give Bethany Church more young men like Robert Pikkaart.

The following was written by a member of the office staff of the Upjohn Company:

IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT PIKKAART

We knew him only in the way
Of business life from day to day.
He did his job, and his friendly smile
Went with him. He had no guile,
But faced the world with friendliness
And we liked him for his wholesomeness.

We saw him grow from boy to man
In one short year; no greater span
Is needed when a youth can see
His grave responsibility.
For war and killing he had no lust
He went because he knew he must
Accept his share of the work to do
Learn his job well and see it through.

All that he had of youth and health -
Epitome of our nation's wealth -
He freely gave who had much to give
That the way of life he knew might live.

Accepting gifts like his, we must
Merit his faith, fulfil his trust.

Helen Burrell
1-15-45

This memorial record was provided for by contributions made by the Misses Attie Greve and Cornelia Greve of Hines Hospital, Akron, Ohio.

Rev. J. B. Pinckard



J A M E S B U T L E R P I N C K A R D

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In the prelude to one of his plays, George Bernard Shaw defines a gentleman as "one who puts more into life than he takes out."

Under that high definition, a gracious Christian gentleman was born in the home of William A. and Rebecca Pinckard at Brighton, Illinois, on the second day of August, 1859. His parents named him James Butler. He received his early education in the public school, in the Methodist Church, and in his parents' home, in that village. Following school days he became a teacher, and, for some time, he taught in the schools of Illinois. His family moved to Edgar, Nebraska, and he early became an official of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a Sunday School superintendent before he was twenty-one. There he became interested in business and was later the junior member of the hardware firm of Gee and Pinckard.

Following his marriage to Mary Taylor Reynolds on September fourth, 1881, a deep-seated purpose to become a Christian minister became a definite

decision. His bride's parents belonged to a family of ministers, her father being the Reverend J. B. Reynolds, an honored member of the Southern Illinois Conference. He gave up a lucrative business and began his special studies, leading to licensure as a minister. After supplying churches at Falls City and Harvard, Nebraska, he completed his education in Garrett Biblical Institute in 1891 and was ordained a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. During his student days, he preached in the church at Park Manor, Illinois.

With eager purpose to be of largest service in his ministry, he and his wife volunteered for foreign missionary service in India. Conditions of health, however, compelled them to give up this purpose, and, in 1891, with two of his classmates, Thomas Nicholson (now retired Bishop) and J. S. Montgomery, he came to Michigan, where, over long years of service, he gave of himself richly to the service of humanity in the name of Christ. He is remembered by his parishioners in the fields where he served as a devoted and faithful pastor, carrying others burdens, "so fulfilling the law of Christ". He had a great capacity for friendship, and he dedicated it to living use, as he "went about doing good". In this

he excelled, and through it, he wrought richly for the Kingdom of Heaven.

His pastorates were at Osseo in 1891; at Girard, 1892-1894; Constatntine, 1894-1898; Mendon, 1898-1900; Kalamazoo, Simpson Church, 1900-1905; Saint Johns, 1905-1909; Muskegon Central, 1909-1911; Hastings, 1911-1913; Mount Pleasant, 1913-1915; Greenville, 1915-1921; Ludington, 1921-1924; and at Greenwood Church, Jackson, from his conference appointment until his death on December twelfth, 1924.

These twelve pastorates, covering a third of a century, witnessed the constructive growth of the churches to which he ministered, and a rich imparting of the deeply spiritual atmosphere he ever carried with him. That was his service and his abiding purpose. The idea of the old phrase that "the soul of all betterment is the betterment of the soul", expressed the motive behind his abundant and faithful labors everywhere. To every opportunity for serving his fellow men, he responded with a glad dedication. He was a gentleman. He put more into life than he took out. To give himself for others "was all his passion and his only art".

His unlooked-for passing came as a shock to the great company of friends who loved him and looked

to him for inspiration and blessing. Following a long illness, he had been gaining health slowly, and, although compelled to walk with crutches and to remain seated while preaching, he entered into the full work of the Greenwood Church at Jackson, which was his last pastorate. His messages to his people in those days were marked with unusual prophetic power. The heroic element came out in his devotion and added richness to his naturally winsome spirit. The three months of his ministry here witnessed a spiritual advance among his people of unusual import.

He preached his last sermon on Sunday, December seventh, 1924. It was a fervent message that will long live in the memory of his hearers. The theme was, "God overrules all things for good". The following Tuesday a sudden relapse came, and, on Friday, he went out to "meet the Pilot face to face."

Having lived and served so well the interests of the Kingdom of the True, the Good, and the Beautiful, he came by God's appointment to the reality of them in the home prepared, in the land of Over-Yonder. "He walked with God, and he was not, for God took him". Memories too deep for words linger in the minds of all who knew him: memories of a Christian gentleman; a robust and loving personality; a faith-

ful and sacrificing minister of Christ; a devoted friend, and a radiant son of God.

"And his Lord said unto him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord'. Praise, Promotion, Privilege - came to him at the end of a perfect day.

"Servant of God, 'Well done'.
Rest from thy loved employ
Thy battles fought, thy victories won
Enter thy Master's joy".

Besides his wife, Mr. Pinckard is survived by a son, Dr. Ralph Reynolds Pinckard of Ellensburg, Washington; and a daughter, Mrs. H. Glenn Henderson (Hazel May) of Kalamazoo, Michigan; and four grandchildren - Hazel Pauline and James Butler Pinckard of Ellensburg, Washington, and Mrs. John Patton (Mary Elizabeth Henderson) of Boston, Massachusetts, and Robert James Henderson of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The above was written in 1937,
by the Reverend John W. Dunning, D. D.

Frank C. Pitcher





The Pitcher Home

F R A N K C P I T C H E R

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From early English ancestry, Frank C. Pitcher was born in Norwich, Connecticut, November 2, 1859, son of Henry and Julia Adams Pitcher. His brothers and sisters were: Crosby and Charles; Nettie, who married William Jackson; Eugene, Lewis and Alice. All are deceased except Eugene, who resides in Bellville, Michigan.

When Frank C. Pitcher was about one and one-half years of age the family moved to Plymouth, Michigan, where the father and Frank's older brothers opened a saw mill and with their ox teams were a part of that army of early settlers, who made the first clearings in the forests of Michigan.

Later the family moved on to a farm bordering on the village of Wayne, Michigan, where Frank attended school. He also did some work in the University of Michigan for one year being interested in civil engineering.

In due time all the Pitcher brothers answered the call of that period and became railroad men, working in the several systems operating out of

Detroit, Michigan. When Frank was fifteen years of age he was employed by the Michigan Central Railroad Company. From this period, when the end of the system was Jackson, Michigan, he saw the expansion of railroads in the middle west and the Michigan Central become a branch of the great New York Central Railroad. From clerk on a Pay-Car, in the early days, he worked up through the various stages of freight and passenger service and continued with the Michigan Central Railroad Company for fifty-three years, retiring in 1929, at the age of seventy and was pensioned.

In 1881, he was married to Mary Holmes Carlin of Wayne, Michigan, and in 1893, with their three daughters, Alberta, Ruby and Florence, they moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mrs. Pitcher was born January 19, 1864, daughter of a pioneer Ohio family. Her father was Thomas E. Carlin, a manufacturer of nails. Her mother was Elizabeth Goss Carlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Pitcher were the parents of:

Alberta May, born July 4, 1883, married
D. L. Kirby and resides in Cleveland,
Ohio;

Ruby, born April 16, 1885, married Frederick C.
Ramlow, became the mother of Ronald of
Cleveland, Ohio, and died in 1905;

Lewis, who died when nine years of age;

Beatrice, died at the age of ten months;

Florence, born May 5, 1892, married Donald Batson, became the mother of Thomas of Detroit, Michigan, and she died in 1921; she was the mother of Mary Louise;

Frank G., born September 26, 1897, became the husband of Elsie Marian Basnett, who was born September 5, 1897, at Widnes, 12 miles from Liverpool, England, came to Kalamazoo in 1914 and was married July 27, 1918, became the mother of Frank George, who died when three days old, and of Robert Ralph, born August 5, 1925, at this time, 1941, a junior in Central High School; Frank G. is Chaplain of Boy Scout Troop No. 25 and Chairman of the Troop Committee; he is also a Mason.

Mr. Frank C. Pitcher bought the home at 719 Staples Avenue in 1905 and lived there most of the remainder of his life. His wife died in 1916 and after he retired he made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Florence Batson, until she died.

In 1931, he was married to Mrs. Henry Bates of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and three years later this happy union was ended by her death, after which he made his home with his son Frank G. Pitcher, Jr., in the old home on Staples Avenue, Kalamazoo.

During his lifetime Mr. Pitcher had belonged to the Republican party and the Railway Trainmen's Association; also the Pioneer Association of Railway Trainmen and the Maccabees.

Mr. Pitcher was brought up in a Methodist home, attended the Simpson Methodist Church for some time, once sang in a Methodist choir and later attended the Presbyterian Church.

In personal appearance he was about five feet, ten and one-half inches tall, weighed about one hundred eighty-seven pounds in his prime and had blue eyes. His hair turned white almost overnight following a railroad accident in which he was injured at the age of twenty-one in which while he was setting brakes on the Dearborn Hill the brake wheel gave way and he fell to the ground and was injured.

Mr. Pitcher was very much interested in hunting and base ball and was a ball player in his younger days. He was quick in his decisions and was always fair and kind. In his business deals he was honest always. He was genial and made many friends, one of whom was Henry Ford with whom he used to race train against a four cylinder Ford automobile from Dearborn to Wayne. Mr. Pitcher was about twenty-two years of age at the time.

Death came to Mr. Pitcher Saturday, May 10, 1941, in Bronson Hospital. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., and burial was in the family lot in Mountain Home cemetery.



John Pitts

J O H N P I T T S

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John Pitts was born in Monroe County, New York state in 1846, the son of Julia Oliver and Samuel Pitts. Death came to Mrs. Samuel Pitts in 1876 and to Samuel Pitts in 1886.

John Pitts came to Kalamazoo when a young man. In 1885, he joined the Kalamazoo police force and served until 1908, when he retired on account of being badly crippled with rheumatism and could not walk.

Three years of his service Mr. Pitts was a patrolman. The remainder of the time he drove the horse patrol and performed the distinguished service of being on duty night and day for sixteen years, with the exception of being off duty for a ten days vacation each year. His bed was in the loft over his horse's stall and from there he was summoned to duty at all hours of the night.

The one aim which Mr. Pitts kept before him was efficiency, and with the old patrol horse, George, which he trained, it was said that he made the short business district calls in less time than the motor

equipment of later days.

Officer Pitts' greatest grief during his long years of retirement and suffering was in the fact that he could not report for duty. When the report of a murder or robbery or police battle reached him he became excited and exclaimed, "If I could only be with the boys!"

At the time of his death it was reported that no two men in the police department had served the number of hours and that no other man had worked for the city so many continuous years without a lay-off of any kind. It was also said of him that he never once in his entire service with the department made an error or violated a rule.

When Mr. Pitts joined the police force in 1885 there were six members, four working nights and two days. The city purchased a patrol wagon in 1888 and Mr. Pitts was made one of the drivers, there being two at that time. A little later John Pitts was made the only driver and responded to all calls day or night. He served under the following chiefs of police: John Lamb, John Blaney, Lyman Gates, Thomas Owens, William Hair, Cal Razor, Burr Greenfield, George Boyles and Charles Allen. It is estimated that he took from 400 to 500 people for a ride in his patrol wagon each year.

Up to the time of his death Mr. Pitts was the only member of the police force to receive a pension. When he became so crippled in the city's service that he could not work, former Police Chief Allen and Chief Charles Struble interceded for him and he was granted a pension of twenty-five dollars per month. While lying on his bed with rheumatism he invented a mechanical device for lifting his body from the mattress.

His wife Ann Pitts was born in 1837 and died in 1909. Death released John Pitts from his suffering in 1917.

Written in April 1937.



Mr. Porten

Effie Boonstra poortenga

E F F I E B O O N S T R A P O O R T E N G A

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Effie Boonstra was born in the province of Groningen, The Netherlands, September 13, 1888, the daughter of Ypel and Anna Bogema Boonstra, who were also the parents of Joe Boonstra, Mrs. Lena Zyenbeard, Mrs. Tina Kuilema, Mrs. Winnie Slager and Mrs. Ida Vanden Bos, all living at this time, 1943, in Comstock, Michigan.

When Effie was about nineteen years of age, she and her brother Joe emigrated to the United States, coming first to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Two years later, 1907, the rest of the family came and the family of Albert and Gertrude Noormen Poortenga came and settled in Byron Center, Michigan.

October 20, 1910, Effie Boonstra was married to Gerben Poortenga, whom she had known in The Netherlands, the officiating clergyman being the Reverend S. Eldersveld. Mr. Poortenga was born in Holland October 8, 1884.

Mr. and Mrs. Poortenga began housekeeping in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and later made their home in Comstock, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Poortenga became the parents of:

Albert, born in Kalamazoo, November 17, 1911, married Angie Van Dyke, became the father of Gerald Duane, [redacted], J. Edwin, March 23, 1941, and Carol Ann, [redacted]; resides in Comstock;

Anna, born in Comstock, July 2, 1914, died at the age of six years;

Twins - Gertrude and Edward, born in Comstock, April 1, 1917, Edward living but nine months; Gertrude married Andrew Poel, became the mother of Robert Herman, [redacted], and James Gary, March 11, 1943, and resides in Comstock;

Johanna, born in Comstock, February 26, 1919, married Bert Triemstra and became the mother of Ruth Elaine, [redacted], and resides in Comstock;

Edward, born July 23, 1921, in Comstock, now in the United States Army;

Angeline, born in Comstock, July 25, 1923, and resides in Comstock; and

Theresa, born in Comstock, April 11, 1926, and resides in Comstock.

The Poortenga family lived for a time in the front of the place of business of the "Poortenga Slager Lumber Company" in Comstock. Later they built a home two doors away.

Mr. and Mrs. Poortenga came from devout Christian homes and Mrs. Poortenga brought up her children in the same atmosphere. She was proud of this country and its opportunities and when her son became a soldier, she expressed a desire to become a citizen

of this country. She started in to school to learn about these United States and took instruction in writing English. April 14, 1943, she went to the Circuit Court in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to take the examination for admission to citizenship, where she suffered a cerebral hemorrhage, which resulted in her death Friday, April 16, 1943.

Mrs. Poortenga was short in stature with light hair turning gray and blue eyes. She loved her home, her husband and her children with unselfish devotion. She was a good disciplinarian and a good manager. In her dealings with her children, her neighbors and friends, she was kind and just and true.

She formerly had belonged to the Comstock Christian Reformed Church but later joined the Protestant Christian Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, of which the Reverend Henry Danhof is the pastor.

Mrs. Poortenga fulfilled the Scriptural description of a virtuous woman:

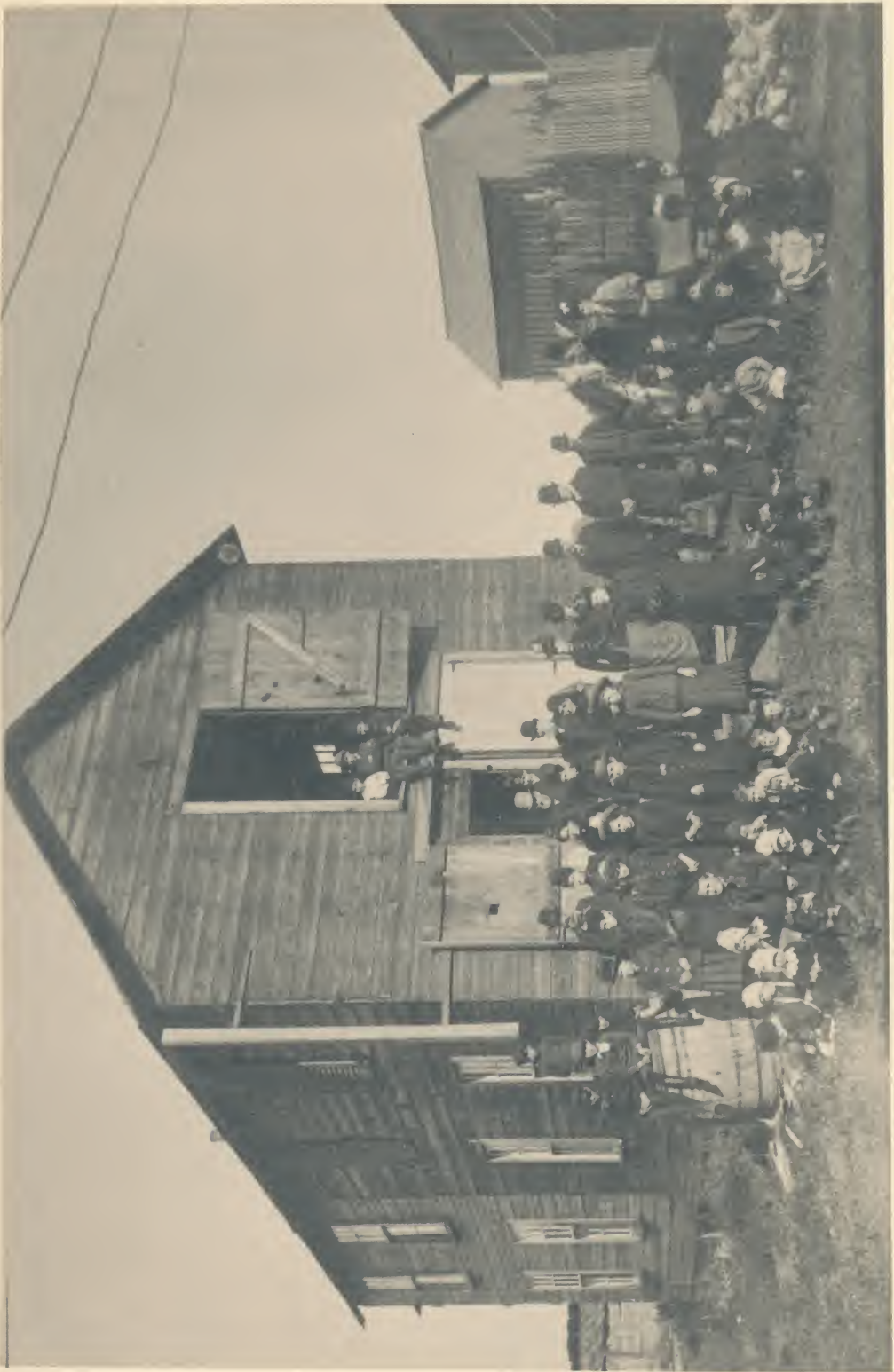
"The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her. Her children rise up and call her blessed."

Her memory is fragrant in the hearts of her family and friends.



Portage Street Baptist Church

Portage Street Baptist Church



Old Cooper Shop where Portage St. Baptist Church began

P O R T A G E S T R E E T
B A P T I S T C H U R C H

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The Portage Street Baptist Church is among the younger churches of Kalamazoo. The First Baptist Church sponsored a mission on the south side, known as the Portage Street Baptist Mission. On March 6, 1887, a Sunday School was opened in an old cooper shop, located on the lot now designated as 729 Jackson Street. Some time later in 1888, the Sunday School was opened in a small structure, erected on the northwest corner of Lake and Portage Streets.

Among the workers at the Mission were, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Furst, Mr. and Mrs. U. D. Wheaton, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Carson, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Borden, Deacon and Mrs. Hascome, and Mrs. Melinda Livingston. Mr. E. E. Borden served the Mission and later the Church, as janitor for many years. On one occasion he had a narrow escape from serious injury when the oil lamp chandelier fell because of broken weights. Many children came to the Mission School. Large gatherings were held at Christmas time. One worker remembered helping prepare Christmas dinner for over 400. In the fall of

1893, revival services were held in the Mission, with large crowds in attendance. Many people were unable to get into the building. The evangelists were two young men, by the names of Davis and Turner. As a result of these meetings the workers decided that the time was ripe to organize a church. So 38 members of the First Baptist Church were dismissed by letter for that purpose. On the evening of December 29, 1893, a large number of interested persons met at the Mission and the Portage Street Baptist Church was organized. The Daily Telegraph of December 30, 1893, reported that a large amount of business was transacted in a most harmonious manner. The good will and fellowship among the members and the friendly spirit of the Church have been characteristic of the Church all through the years.

The charter members were: Eugene E. Borden, Thomas Hall, Mrs. Elizabeth Borden, Mrs. Jennie Hall, Edith Campbelle, John M. Dean, Frank Harris, Henry J. Harris, Mrs. Etta Husted, Winnifred Husted, Willard Lockwood, Mrs. Samantha Russel, G. Marion Johnston, Harry M. Kelly, Frank Rogers, Wm. Hitchcock, Hugh S. Meade, Mrs. Cora Hitchcock, John Lang, Mrs. John Lang, Frances Meade, Frank Meade, Kittie Stilgon, Alice Madill, Alice Starring, Mrs. Mary Meade, Ira Snyder, Mrs. Agnes Snyder, Hugh Vander Walker, Lida Tilbery,

Nettie Stimson, Mrs. Anna Wiedmeyer, Mrs. Mary Wadsworth, Alice Stimson, Charles Hall, Esther Hall, Ursula Vandever, William Meade.

The first officers of the Church were: Clerk, Miss Frances Meade; Treasurer, John F. Lang; Deacons, E. E. Borden, Ira Snyder, Thomas Hall; Trustees, John Lang, Ira Snyder, Frank Meade, Charles Young, and Frank Forbes.

A. G. Miller, a student at Kalamazoo College and acting pastor of the Mission, was retained as regular pastor with a salary of \$8.00 per week. The first communion service was held on Sunday evening, January 7, 1894, and was presided over by the Reverend S. J. Axtell, an instructor at Kalamazoo College. During the first year the average attendance at the morning service was 55; for the evening service, 70. The Sunday School had an average attendance of 84.

The Church has shown a steady growth all through the years. By 1900 the membership numbered 111; by 1915, 165; by 1925, 375. To date the membership totals 517. There is an enrollment of 529 in the Sunday School and the average attendance is 307.

From time to time, the church building has been enlarged and improved. During the pastorate of the Reverend C. A. Hemingway, the Church ceased to be a mission Church with the help of the State Board, and

became self-supporting. It was during the latter part of this same pastorate that the interior of the church was remodeled.

Three of the charter members are still members of the Church. They are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene E. Borden, and Mrs. Cora Hitchcock Atwater. At a service celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Church, Mr. Eugene Borden was made Deacon Emeritus. The pulpit in use in the church was made by Eugene Borden, Ira Snyder and John Lang. Mr. Borden also made the four collection boxes which were in use until 1935, when the Church was presented with four collection plates by Mr. and Mrs. Freeland Carlton, Sr.

Mrs. Jennie Druif Wheeler, now deceased, worked in the Primary Department nearly thirty years. The present Church treasurer, N. S. Pond, has served in that capacity since 1907.

Up to the time of this writing (1936) nine pastors have served this Church. Their names and the dates of their pastorates are as follows: A. G. Miller, January 1894 to October 1894; Herbert W. Clough, October 28, 1894 to June 28, 1896; Charles A. Hemingway, September 6, 1896 to October 1, 1908; Niels J. Peterson, November 1908 to May 13, 1913; H. C. Trabert, September 1913 to September 1916; Lorenz I. Hansen, December 1916 to December 1920; L. L. Campbell, July

1921 to September 15, 1924; Edwin A. Bell, November 1924 to January 8, 1929; Walter F. Huxford, January 15, 1929 to April 30, 1936.

Dr. J. P. Klyver served the Church as interim pastor during the early part of the year 1921. The Reverend N. J. Peterson of Berkeley, California, served as interim pastor during the summer months of 1936.

Mrs. Lela Rishel, Church Clerk,
June 9, 1936.





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